

REMARKS

Claims 1 through 3, 5 through 11, 13, 15 through 19, 21 and 22 are in the application, with Claims 1, 2, 9, 13, 15, 18 and 21 having been amended, and with Claims 4, 12, 14 and 20 having been cancelled. Claims 1, 9, and 18 are the independent claims herein. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication that Claims 12 through 15, 20 and 21 include allowable subject matter. Applicant has amended independent Claims 9 and 18 to include the subject matter of Claims 14 and 20, respectively. Accordingly, Claims 9, 18, and the claims depending therefrom (i.e. Claims 10, 11, 13, 15 through 17, 19, 21 and 22) are believed to be allowable.

Claim Rejections

Of the remaining claims, Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Publication No. 2002/0167362 A1 ("Justice"); and Claims 2 through 8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 over Justice in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,330,683 ("Jeddeloh"). Reconsideration and withdrawal of these rejections are respectfully requested.

Amended independent Claim 1 relates to a method that includes coupling a switch capacitor circuit to a control signal using a first switch, determining that an output capacitance of the switch capacitor circuit generated based on the control signal is oscillating, and uncoupling the switch capacitor circuit from the control signal using the first switch to set a first output capacitance of the switch capacitor circuit. The method also includes coupling a main loop circuit to the control signal using a second switch to generate an output signal based on the control signal, wherein a frequency of an oscillating signal output by an oscillating circuit is based at least on the first output capacitance and on the output signal generated by the main loop circuit.

The art of record is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of Claim 1. In particular, the art of record is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least coupling a switch

capacitor circuit to a control signal using a first switch and coupling a main loop circuit to the control signal using a second switch to generate an output signal based on the control signal, wherein a frequency of an oscillating signal output by an oscillating circuit is based at least on a first output capacitance of the switch capacitor circuit and on the output signal generated by the main loop circuit.

Justice is seen to disclose a system in which one or more frequency altering devices 34 may be switched in to a voltage-controlled oscillator (VCO) 26 using a switching network 32 in order to control an output frequency of the VCO 26. As shown in FIG. 7 of Justice, each switch of the switching network 32 is coupled to its own distinct operating signal. Accordingly, nowhere does Justice disclose or suggest coupling a switch capacitor circuit to a control signal using a first switch and coupling a main loop circuit to the control signal using a second switch. Moreover, Justice is not seen to disclose or to suggest that a frequency of an oscillating signal output by an oscillating circuit is based at least on a first output capacitance of the switch capacitor circuit and on an output signal generated by the main loop circuit based on the control signal.

The other art of record has been reviewed and is not seen to include any disclosure to remedy the foregoing deficiencies in Justice. Amended independent Claim 1 and its dependent Claims 2, 3, and 5 through 8 are therefore believed to be in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

The outstanding Office Action presents a number of characterizations regarding each of the applied references, some of which are not directly addressed herein because they are not related to the rejections of the independent claims. Applicant does not necessarily agree with the characterizations and reserve the right to further discuss those characterizations.

For at least the reasons given above, it is submitted that the entire application is in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience. Alternatively, if there remains any question regarding the present application or any of the cited references, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions for expediting allowance of the present application, the Examiner is cordially requested to contact the undersigned via telephone at (203) 972-0049.

Respectfully submitted,

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